

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A transgenic *Xenopus tadpole* comprising a transgene that is a reporter gene specifically expressed in ~~[[the]]~~ a functional lymphatic vessel system of said *Xenopus tadpole* and that visualizes said lymphatic vessel system.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method to produce a transgenic *Xenopus tadpole* according to claim 1 comprising introducing a vector comprising a transgene under control of a promoter specifically expressed in the lymphatic vascular system into cells of a Xenopus tadpole.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein said promoter is selected from the list comprising a Podoplanin promoter, a Prox-1 promoter, a VEGFR-3 promoter and a LYVE-1 promoter.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for visualizing the lymphatic vessel system in a Xenopus tadpole comprising generating a transgenic *Xenopus tadpole* comprising a reporter gene that is specifically expressed in the lymphatic vessel system.

6. (Currently Amended) A method to identify a compound capable of modulating lymphatic vessel development in a transgenic *Xenopus tadpole* according to claim 1 comprising the steps: Use of a transgenic *Xenopus* according to claim 1 to identify a compound capable of modulating lymphatic vessel development comprising:

a) contacting said transgenic *Xenopus tadpole* with a test compound,

b) comparing the lymphatic vessel system in said transgenic *Xenopus* tadpole contacted with said test compound with the lymphatic vessel system of a transgenic *Xenopus* tadpole that was not contacted with said test compound and,

c) determining the effect of said test compound on lymphatic vessel development, such that if lymphatic vessel development in the transgenic *Xenopus* contacted with said test compound is different from the lymphatic vessel development in the transgenic *Xenopus* tadpole that was not contacted with said test compound, said compound is a modulator of the lymphatic vessel system.